

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION-CERTIFICATION UNIT

PROVISIONAL VISUALLY IMPAIRED SPECIAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE K-12

- **All requirements for the Provisional Visually Impaired Special Education Certificate must be met.** The provisional certificate is valid for two years and is not renewable, but may be extended once for two years. **Fees are not refundable.**
1. A Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution. Official transcript(s) required.
 2. Option A, B, or C:
 - A. Completion of a teacher preparation program in visual impairment from an accredited institution.
 - B. 45 semester hours of education courses from an accredited institution including 21 semester hours of special education courses for the visually impaired and 8 semester hours of practicum.
 - Special education courses shall include (1) survey of exceptional students, (2) teaching methodologies for students with visual impairment, (3) foundations of instruction of students with visual impairment, (4) diagnostic and assessment procedures for the visually impaired, and (5) electives in visually impaired (if needed).
 - **Two years** of verified full-time teaching experience in the area of visually impaired in grades Prekindergarten-12 may be substituted for the 8 semester hours of practicum. (Please submit a letter on official letterhead from District Superintendent or Personnel Director to verify teaching experience.)
 - C. A valid Visually Impaired Special Education Certificate from another state.
 3. A passing score on the elementary professional knowledge portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment.
 4. A passing score on the visually impaired special education portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment.
 5. A valid Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card (plastic) issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety at (602) 223-2279.
- NOTE:** If you otherwise qualify for the certificate but are deficient in Arizona and/or U.S. Constitution, you have **three years** under a valid teaching certificate to fulfill the requirement, except that if you are teaching an academic course on history, government, social studies, citizenship, law, or civics, you have **one year** to fulfill the requirement.
1. Arizona Constitution (a college course or the appropriate examination).
 2. U.S. Constitution (a college course or the appropriate examination).

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STANDARD VISUALLY IMPAIRED SPECIAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE K-12

- **All requirements for the Standard Visually Impaired Special Education Certificate must be met.** The standard certificate is valid for six years and is renewable. **Fees are not refundable.**
1. Qualify and hold the Provisional Visually Impaired Special Education Certificate for **two years**.
 2. A passing score on the performance portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment. Currently, the assessment has not been developed. **Two years** of verified full-time teaching experience during the valid period of the provisional certificate may be used to convert the Provisional Certificate to a Standard Certificate. (Please submit a conversion form signed by the District Superintendent or Personnel Director verifying **two years** of full-time teaching experience during the valid period of the provisional certificate being converted.)
 3. A valid Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card (plastic) issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety at (602) 223-2279.

*PURSUANT TO A.R.S. 15-534.03, EACH EDUCATOR MUST NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS WITHIN THIRTY DAYS. CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE.

ALL DOCUMENTATION, INCLUDING TRANSCRIPTS, BECOMES THE PROPERTY OF THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND WILL NOT BE RETURNED. REQUIREMENTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND ARE FULLY REFERENCED IN THE ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES AND ADMINISTRATIVE CODE.